



NOVEMBER 2016

MELTON HIGHWAY, SYDENHAM

Project overview

More than 200 trains, 38,000 vehicles and 200 bus services travel through the Melton Highway level crossing in Sydenham each day.

The boom gates at this busy crossing are down for around 24 minutes during the morning peak, causing traffic delays and frustration for commuters that can trigger risky behaviour.

If the level crossing was not removed this would only worsen with future increases in traffic volumes and more frequent trains when the Metro Tunnel project is completed.

The congestion caused by this level crossing affects the reliability of travel times for road users and reduces the effectiveness of bus services in the area, including the four bus routes that travel through the level crossing each day.

Once the level crossing is removed, Sydenham can look forward to improved safety, less congestion and more reliable travel times.

Project scope

The project to remove the boom gates will involve:

- raising Melton Highway over the rail line by building a road bridge
- connecting Sydenham Road and Victoria Road under the new bridge
- creating a two-way service road to provide access from Sydenham and Victoria Roads to Melton Highway
- providing dedicated on-road cycle lanes on the bridge, improving safety for cyclists
- creating safe and open pedestrian areas, with dedicated cycling and walking paths across the rail line and underneath the new bridge.

Removing 50 dangerous and congested level crossings will transform the way people live, work and travel across metropolitan Melbourne and improve safety for drivers and pedestrians.

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Project construction

Geotechnical investigations were carried out in late 2015, with community consultation undertaken throughout 2016. Early construction and site set-up works will commence in summer 2016–17, with the project to be completed by late 2018.

Delivering a project of this scale will require some disruption to roads and trains during construction. However, our construction plan will ensure that people will be inconvenienced as little as possible.

Part of minimising the inconvenience is making sure that the construction happens in as short a time frame as possible, with all the work completed by late 2018.

The majority of works will take place during regular working hours. Some short closures of the rail line may be necessary, depending on the construction program approach taken by the contractor.

Some overnight works may also be required. Where this is the case, those affected will be notified in advance and advised about the impacts. These disruptions will be minimised as much as possible.



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Project benefits

- Improved safety – crossing the tracks will be much safer for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers
- Reduced traffic congestion – no more waiting at the boom gates for the 38,000 vehicles that travel along Melton Highway every weekday
- Better connected communities – creating new public space, walking and cycling paths
- More trains will be able to run on the Sunbury line
- Creation of hundreds of jobs during construction.

Community input

We will establish a stakeholder liaison group, or SLG, to ensure community involvement with the project throughout its delivery.

The group, chaired by Natalie Hutchins, Member for Sydenham, will meet regularly with the project team to provide a local perspective on project issues, particularly in relation to minimising impacts on the local community during construction.